

# Hartford Elementary News

## Welcome Back!

*The New Year Starts*



And we're off! Hopefully you and your child have had a great start to the new school year. In this monthly letter, I'll keep you up to date on happenings here. I'll include pictures and updates of the kids.

September is a busy month. As you can see, we have the Trojan Reading Bowl, a kindergarten field trip, and Homecoming! We hope to see you at the events!

Happy Reading!

### September Events:

- Monday, September 3 - No School
- Tuesday, September 4 - PTA Meeting @ 7:00 HS Library
- Thursday, September 6 - Preschool Screenings
- Tuesday, September 11 - School Pictures/Bookmobile
- Tuesday, September 11 - Second Grade Fundraiser items due
- Monday, September 17 - Trojan Reading Bowl @ 7:00 pm - HS football field
- Tuesday, September 18 - Tyler Tuesday
- Friday, September 21 - Kdg Vision Screening
- Wednesday, September 26 - Kdg. Field Trip to the Apple Orchard
- Friday, September 28 - Homecoming Parade 1:30 and Game @ 7:00 pm
- Friday, September 28 - Trojan Buck Store

## SECOND GRADE BEGIN FUNDRAISER

For all parents of second grade students: Your child has brought home a packet of fundraising materials from Great American. As an elementary school, we are allowed one fundraiser per year to help us defray costs associated with our Trojan Buck Store, the Birthday Bash, field trips, assemblies, and other things throughout the year that cost money, but aren't in the realm of "educational materials."

We never have kindergarten or first grade sell anything, but begin the fundraiser with 2nd grade - 8th grade. This is an optional activity for your child, and we do appreciate your help. A parent asked if they could donate without buying anything and of course we would never turn that down!

Thanks again for your help and if you need more information, please call! - Mrs. Tyler

## THE AUGUST BIRTHDAY BASH

The August Birthday Bash was held on Thursday, August 30th. Mrs. Tyler read the book, Happy Birthday to You! by Dr. Seuss. Each child received a pencil, a birthday card, a Trojan Buck, and a fruit snack. Happy birthday to all the August birthdays!



### August Kindergarten Birthdays

Back Row: Khang (8-2), Brody (8-4), Collby (8-22), Hunter (8-24), and Lucas (8-2)

Front Row: Vanessa (8-8), Reagan (8-7), Jadyn (8-13), and Paige (8-16)

### August First Grade Birthdays

Back Row: Olivia (8-30), Molly (8-23), Morgyn (8-4), AJ (8-12), Caleb (8-18), and Matthew (8-14)

Front Row: Ariana (8-16), Hannah (8-15), Lacey (8-1), and Lola (8-2)



### August Second Grade Birthdays

Jasmyn (8-31), Grace (8-5), Brock (8-11), Dillon (8-23), Dylan (8-31), and Brock (8-20)

PTA Meeting  
Tuesday,  
September 4th  
HS Library  
7:00 pm



*Nurse's Notes by Rachel Sehr, School Nurse*

It might seem a little early to start thinking of fevers and sore throats, but with everybody being back indoors for the school year, the prevalence of illness drastically increases. Please remember, the school does

not supply any over the counter medicine. If you intend to send medicine to school for your child, a release form must be signed by the parent regardless of whether it is a prescription or an over the counter product. ***This applies to all K-12 students.*** Please also keep in mind, every effort should be made to take medication outside school hours.

Our school medication release form has two options to choose from. The first option is selected when the school will store and distribute the medication to the student and requires a physician's signature if the medication is for an ongoing condition or any prescription. For this option, a parent must also deliver the medication to school. It may not be sent with the student. The second option is chosen if the student is to take their medication on their own. Please keep in mind, this option must be selected if any over the counter medicine is taken as well, including, but not limited to, cough drops, eye drops, Tylenol, ibuprofen, TUMS, vitamins, etc. Also, the

student may only have one day's dose in their possession each school day. For example, if they are taking a pill that can be taken every two hours, they may have four pills. If they are taking something that is given every 12 hours, they may only carry one. Release forms can be found at <http://wc nurse.wikispaces.com> under the forms section or can be obtained at any of the school offices.

If a student is found carrying too many doses or the school does not have a signed release form, the medicine will be confiscated and a parent will have to retrieve the medication from the office.

Please refer to our school medication policy or contact the school nurse if you have any questions.

Also, the kindergarten and junior kindergarten students will be having their vision screened by Avera Ophthalmology again this year on Friday, September 21. Permission sheets will be sent home and need to be returned no later than Monday, September 17. Any student that does not return a signed consent form will not be allowed to participate.

Remember, plenty of rest, exercise, proper nutrition, and good hygiene go a long way in the prevention of most common illnesses!

**TYLER TUESDAY**

Tyler Tuesday is a chance to have a free meal on your child's birthday month. In exchange, I ask for a few minutes of your time to meet for feedback on our school. We meet at 11:00 am in the conference room and we chat for about 10 minutes. You are then free to go to your child's classroom and go through the lunchroom routine with them.

Please give Pam a call in advance of the monthly date so we can plan appropriately in the kitchen with enough food.

I look forward to meeting with all of you throughout the year!

**TYLER  
TUESDAY**

Tuesday, September 18th

For all August and  
September Birthdays!

Call Pam @ 528-3215 to  
register!



## NEW TO WEST CENTRAL HARTFORD ELEMENTARY

Hi! My name is Mrs. Holloway and I'm the new kindergarten teacher at Hartford elementary. I just moved here from Houston, Texas where I taught Kindergarten for 17 years. I have been married for 16 years to my awesome husband, Tim and have three amazing kids. Sydney is 13 and in the 7th grade, Tj is 11 in 6th grade and little Elisabeth is 6 and in 1st grade. We love our football and I am sure we'll be the only family flying a Houston Texans flag!! Go Texans! I am so happy to be teaching in such a great school, in such a great community and have felt so welcomed by everyone. Please remember us in the winter months... :)



My name is Amanda McNamara. I live in Hartford with my 3 year-old son Dylan. I enjoy watching movies and spending time with my son. Besides working with children, I love volunteering at the Jaycees Haunted House each year. I have worked with the school district for the past two years in the high school. This year, I am working in the early childhood program and loving every minute of it!

Hello, my name is Trey Manitz. I will be teaching 2nd Grade at Hartford Elementary. I am very excited to begin my first year here at West Central! I graduated from Augustana College in December of 2011. I live in Sioux Falls and will be traveling here everyday. I am engaged to be married to Micole. Along side of teaching, I will also be coaching 7th grade basketball and football. I will strive each and every day to be the best teacher I can be. I am excited to get to know all of the kids and can't wait to have a great year!



## NEW TO WEST CENTRAL HARTFORD ELEMENTARY

My name is Paige Wettren and I am the new school psychologist for the West Central School District. My husband and I live with our three dogs and cat in Hartford where we just bought a home. I am originally from Minnesota and attended the University of Minnesota in the Twin Cities where I received my Bachelor of Arts Degree in Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences. I then moved to Nashville for my graduate studies where I received my Master of Arts Degree in Psychology and Education Specialist Degree in School Psychology from Tennessee State University. I am very happy to be living in South Dakota, closer to family and friends, and look forward to becoming a part of the West Central community.



My name is Kyndra Brockmueller and I grew up on a farm in Jackson, Minnesota where I was active in sports, student council, 4-H, and FFA. With my background of valuing the small community where I was raised has me very excited to be a part of the one here at West Central!

I graduated from South Dakota State University in 2009 with a BA degree in Early Childhood Education Birth-8 with an Endorsement in Kindergarten. Go Jacks!

Following graduation, I returned to the Sioux Falls area where I got involved in the Tea Area School District with the special education program and also the Viborg Public School District as a 1st Grade Teacher. In the mean time, I also got married to my husband Kevin Brockmueller whom I met at SDSU. We now live in Crooks, SD along with our puppy, Abby.

Again, I am very excited to start my new adventure here at West Central! I am looking forward to making some great memories with your children and families!



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## NEW TO WEST CENTRAL HARTFORD ELEMENTARY



Hi! My name is Connie Kaffar. I am very excited to be the new Educational Assistant in the Early Childhood Development program here at West Central. I lived in Denver, Colorado for the past 30 years and have two grown children that reside there. For the past fifteen years I have worked as a para-educator in a K-5 guided reading program at Aspen Creek Elementary. I am originally from Humboldt and graduated from West Central in 1983.

I am happy and excited to be back in South Dakota close to my family once again. I look so forward to having the opportunity to be part of the West Central School District!

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# TROJAN READING BOWL

Monday, September 17th - 7:00 pm West Central Football Field



Watch for the form to come home with your child, or download from the link!

Download forms at:

[http://tylerweb.wikispaces.com/  
Trojan+Reading+Bowl](http://tylerweb.wikispaces.com/Trojan+Reading+Bowl)





## HOMECOMING



*Last year's homecoming pictures.*

Our Homecoming Parade is Friday, September 28th. As part of our Trojan Spirit, we have a float in the parade. Two students (one boy and one girl) are selected from each classroom to ride on the float. Those students showing good character and trustworthiness are selected to ride. If your child is selected, you will be notified by letter. It would be great if all students were allowed to ride, but we need parade watchers also! So join us on the afternoon of September 28th to take part in this West

Central Trojan tradition! The parade begins at 1:30 p.m. It will begin by the HS and march in front of our elementary building.

We also ask all students to wear our school colors that day. We understand if you haven't been able to purchase any "Trojan wear." Anything blue and white will work. The Athletic Booster Club does sell Trojan gear at home events.

**Go Big Blue!!**

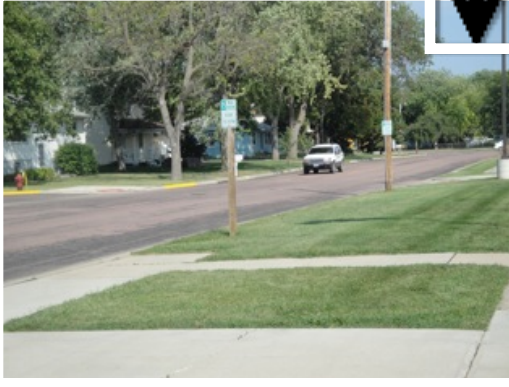
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 IN THE ART ROOM

Our year always begins by practicing the art room rules and procedures and answering questions like "What do I do if my pencil breaks?" or "Where do I put my paper when I am done?" Once students are comfortable following the rules and procedures of the art room, we immediately start creating with the ingredients to art, the design elements. Our first ingredient to art is line and we have fun drawing as many different kinds of line as we can. Many of your child's art projects will soon be on display at our online art gallery at [www.Artsonia.com](http://www.Artsonia.com). Artsonia is the largest student art museum in the world. Their dream is that every young artist will have an online art gallery, preserving their masterpieces for all time. Artsonia also allows you to purchase items such as coffee cups, magnets, t-shirts, etc. with your child's art on it. With your purchase, Artsonia will now donate 20% of all purchases back to the West Central Hartford Elementary Visual Arts Program. Thank you to those parents who have purchased items this past year and support our visual arts program with extra funds. If you do not know your child's username or have not registered for a parent account, feel free to contact Brenda Sosa, K-2 art teacher at West Central Hartford Elementary by phone 528-3217 x1302 or email [brenda.sosa@k12.sd.us](mailto:brenda.sosa@k12.sd.us) and I can answer all your Artsonia and art related questions.

# Parking and Drop Off

We have several places to drop off students in the morning if they do not take a bus. The front of our building works great (15 minute parking) for stopping and letting your child out.



They will then walk on the sidewalk to the playground. We have a yellow line painted and the children walk on the skinny side! It is to keep them safe and far from the busses that travel through. All students begin the day on the playground until 8:25.

Another option is the back alley drive. The gate is opened in the morning to let kids directly on to the playground.



The third option is the horseshoe driveway on the west of the school by the shuttle busses. There is no parking or drop off allowed on the south side of the building on the u driveway. That is reserved for Early Childhood and Junior Kindergarten school vans.

Always maintain the 15 mph near the school. We have shuttle kids (who leave by 8:10)

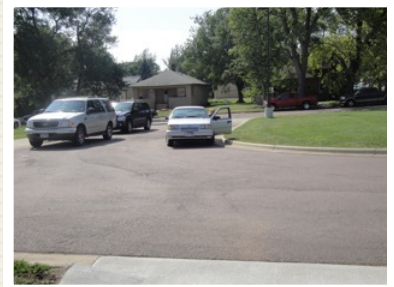
and our own students walking and biking to school. Because of their age, they don't always think first. We have to help them. If you notice a problem area, please let the office know!



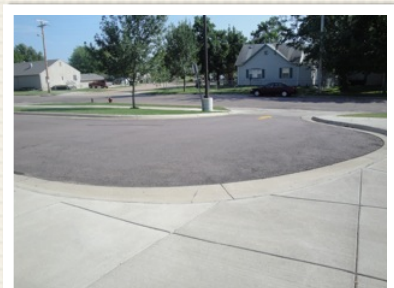
## PARKING



ALLEY GATE OPEN UNTIL  
8:25 AM



DROP OFF AREA WEST OF  
THE BUILDING



NO DROPPING OFF OR  
PICKING UP IN THE U  
DRIVEWAY TO THE SOUTH  
OF THE SCHOOL. THIS IS  
RESERVED FOR SCHOOL  
VANS ONLY!





# Walking Bus Routes

by Mrs. Tyler

I will begin the walking bus routes the week of **September 10th**. I will try to follow the following schedule, but there are times that I have meetings that I can't avoid. If I am not at the stop and the in-town bus comes, please have your kids ride the bus.

Tuesdays - Imagination Station Route - 7:50 pick up

Thursdays - Emma Circle/South of School Route - 7:45 pick up

Fridays - Christ Lutheran Route - 7:40 pick up



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## Chores at Home = More Success at School (Love & Logic Tip)

Is it difficult to get your kids to help around the house? Do you have to pay them to do the dishes, clean their room, etc? This week, Dr. Charles Fay provides some easy to use techniques to get your kids to do their chores without paying, begging, or bribing them.

Ask any veteran educator, and they'll agree:

***Kids who are used to doing chores at home...without reminders, without pay, and without arguing...are far more respectful and motivated at school.***

So...how's a parent actually get stubborn kids to do their fair share without resorting to begging, bribery, or full-scale warfare?

Listed below are some brief tips:

- When you see your kids working hard on a chore, offer to help them as long as they still work harder than you do. This rewards their hard work, gives you an opportunity to bond with them, and ups the odds that they'll be willing to help you when you are old and feeble.

- Give reasonable deadlines rather than saying, "Do it now!" Saying, "Just have it done by \_\_\_\_\_," has an added benefit: it gives you plenty of time to figure out what you will do if they refuse or forget to do the chore.
  - Don't threaten, nag, remind, or warn. Just let them blow it.
  - Do the chore for them.
  - Lock in the empathy and expect them to repay you for your time by doing some of your chores, staying home instead of being driven somewhere, etc.
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## HOW FAST A YEAR CAN GO...

I had the privilege of having my middle daughter, Melissa, home with us for this past year. After she graduated from college, she wanted to get into graduate school, so she lived at home for a year to save some money. I won't lie. It was wonderful having her home. She worked three jobs and helped me when she could. She taught me how

to play cribbage, made me exercise, and shared the same taste in television and books.

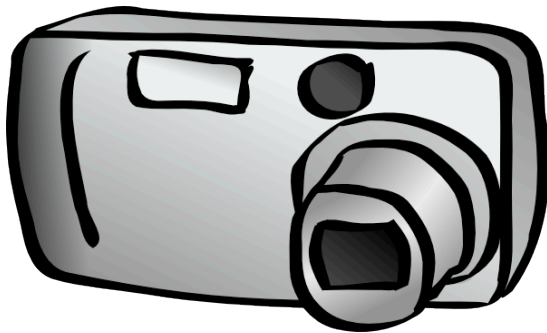
We moved her to the cities this weekend. She has a small one bedroom apartment and she couldn't be happier. She starts grad school this week and is looking at a three year commitment. As her mom, I'm proud of her, but again, I can't lie. This was hard...even harder than when we moved her to college for her freshman year. She has her own "home" now and even when she does come this way, it will only be for a visit.

So I empathize with the first step many of you have just taken by sending one off to kindergarten. It's the first of many "baby steps" to adulthood. Enjoy each step! They soon start to run!

- Mrs. Tyler

## School Pictures

Tuesday,  
September 11th



### Box Tops for Education

Just clip, put in a baggie and return to school! There is also a drop box at Sunshine.



### Save Five for Schools

Just wash these milk and juice lids and send to school in a baggie (or Sunshine). Watch for store specials! We need the WHOLE lid!



### Labels for Education

This is not just Campbell's Soup Labels anymore! There are many products that qualify. Check it out at [labelsforeducation.com](http://labelsforeducation.com). You can send labels to school with your child or drop in box @ Sunshine.

### Cell Phones/Ink Cartridges

You can drop off old cell phones or ink cartridges and we can recycle and get money back. There is a box inside our front door.